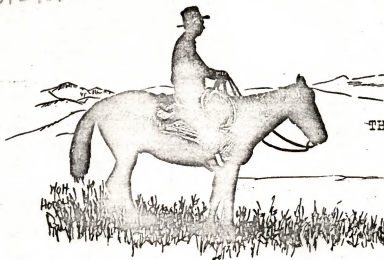


THE

RANGE

RIDER



THE

GRAZING

SERVICE

THE THREE C's

A small green book made its appearance in the Washington office this week. It is called the Annual Report of the Director of the Civilian Conservation Corps for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 1939.

Under way since April 5, 1933, this conservation effort, with its 311,000 young men in 1,500 outdoor camps, during the fiscal year 1939 accomplished more and better work than during any previous year, in a wide variety of conservation activities.

A tremendous amount of splendid achievement by these CCC camps during the six and one quarter years prior to June 30, 1939, is reflected in the following figures given in the report:

Nearly 17,100,000 rods (5343.75 miles) of fences have been constructed; 106,800 miles of truck trails and minor roads have been built; fire hazards have been reduced on approximately 2,000,000,000 acres of land; 4,890,000 check dams have been built; 5,575 impounding and large diversion dams have been constructed; 18,000 springs, wells, waterholes, and small reservoirs have been developed, and 9,375,000 man-days have been expended on fighting forest fires and on fire prevention and fire suppression activities -- just to mention a few of the more than 150 types of work carried on throughout the 48 United States, the District of Columbia, 70 Indian Reservations, and the territories of Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands!

Still, the natural resource conservation activities of this far-reaching organization are not its prime consideration. One of the main objectives of the Civilian Conservation Corps is the rehabilitation of youth through the performance of useful work, training, education, and physical and spiritual development in order that these young men, when released from camp, might become normal, useful citizens who are able and willing to make their own living. Through cooperative efforts of several Departments of the Federal Government, the Civilian Conservation Corps educational facilities have continually improved until during the fiscal year 1939 practical training

Methods had been perfected to the point where more than 91 percent of the enrolled personnel participated in the educational facilities within the camps. It is also interesting to note that over 30,000 enrollees, in the total of 1,500 camps, accepted jobs and took their place in civilian life prior to the completion of their term of enrollment. This record can be traced back to the camp on- and off-the-job training programs in such fields as auto mechanics and equipment maintenance; drafting and map making; bulldozer, tractor, truck and grader operation; carpentry and the use of tools; concrete construction; foreman leader work, and many other fields of endeavor.

In connection with the training program there has been conducted special, vigilant instruction in the correct, safe use of machinery and tools, and in precautionary methods for the prevention of accidents.

Where does the Grazing Service fit into this record of remarkable achievement? Originally assigned 7 camps in 1935, and 45 later that same year, the Grazing Service now administers 90 camps. The activities undertaken by these "G" camps have included the construction of range facilities (fences, wells, truck and stock trails, et cetera) at strategic points to contribute to the efficient administrative control and management of areas in Federal grazing districts by cutting down excessive trailing, opening range areas to market, and opening formerly inaccessible grazing areas. Range areas have been rehabilitated through rodent and predatory animal control, water development, range reseeding and revegetation, the eradication of poisonous plants, mapping of range areas and classification of lands within Federal grazing districts as to carrying capacity and type of forage cover. All of these things tie definitely into the main objective of the Grazing Service -- "to stop injury to the public grazing lands by preventing overgrazing and soil deterioration, to provide for their orderly use, improvement, and development, to stabilize the livestock industry dependent upon the public range, and for other purposes."

A three-fold program of inestimable value ("to provide employment, to provide vocational training, and to perform useful public work..."), it has been estimated that conservation activities throughout the country have been advanced from 10 to 25 years by the Civilian Conservation Corps. The need to conserve our national resources has been realized and already Federal and State CCC projects have been suggested which would keep the present number of camps and men busy for from 30 to 50 years!

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SCHOOL DAYS!

Leland Bieber, Jean M. Mayo, and Jay Moberly of the Burns office are conducting a school for CCC enrollees. Classes in shorthand, typing machine operation, and bookkeeping are being taught at camps G-112 and G-130 every Wednesday night from 7 to 9 p.m. Camp educational advisers are cooperating in the work and arranging for the necessary text books.

So much enthusiasm about the work has been evidenced that the number attending the classes has had to be limited because of shortage of machines, space, et cetera.

Such a splendid contribution to the general educational program certainly calls for a bouquet of something or other, all tied up with type-writer ribbon!

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MOVIES

Those attending the New Mexico Wool Growers Association Annual Meeting at Albuquerque, New Mexico on February 8, 1940 will be invited to see the films of the Department of the Interior entitled "Home Rule on the Range" and "Wool - From Fleeces to Fabric."

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SAFETY SUGGESTION

Mr. John A. Cox, Foreman G-70, Jordan, Montana, sent in the following entry in the safety contest:

"The first rule of safety: Gain the confidence of your men!

"Look for trouble on the job in the form of defective tools, machinery, trucks.

"Watch your men; if they are unaccustomed to handling tools or driving trucks, speak kindly and demonstrate and teach them the proper method of using equipment and machinery."

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IN DEFENSE OF "OLD PAINT"

Word leaked out -- we can't imagine how -- to the artist who drew the "horse you see upon the cover" that "Old Paint" was being fairly pulled to pieces -- starting with his tail! The artist -- our friend Walt Henoch, chief of drafting section in Salt Lake City -- is a good guy. Being an engineer, he says, he builds things according to specifications but didn't know there were any such for horses' tails! Upon receipt of the proper specifications from his Idaho pal, for the perfect tail, he promises to build a horse which will do honor to the tail. It doesn't seem right and proper that one mere man should be so greatly endowed, but Walt has also demonstrated that he is a poet and has dedicated the following verse to his poet friend in Idaho:

The Sad Tale of a Horse

From a gent who objects, and professes much knowledge
 About a great many things outside of a college,
 Comes a complaint, and this complaint's general trend
 Is concerning a horse, and a horse's west end.
 With hands in the air he gives vent to this wail,
 There are too many hairs
 in the horse's tail!

Well, perhaps he is right, is our well-meaning friend,
 And maybe it is like a wide river's bend.
 And for this no doubt there's a reason quite clear,
 Since the poor beast was drawn by a mine engineer
 Who had studied for years but somehow did fail
 To count the hairs
 in a horse's tail!

He'd ne'er had a chance to study such things
 As the pretty, gay flowers the spring rain brings,
 The soulful look in a range cow's stare
 Nor the exact mental age of a wild-running hare,
 And how to write at great length on such minor details
 As the number of hairs
 in horses' tails!

Well, life's a strange drama, and the pranks the Fate's play
 Very often upset us, and we gaze in dismay
 On a lifetime of effort which has all come to naught,
 Over some bit of knowledge which never was sought,
 And forlornly the path of defeat we must trail,
 Because of too many hairs
 in a horse's tail!

--Walt Henoch.

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WE HAVE A CELEBRITY WITH US

From the Reno office comes Mrs. Eleanor Hutches to pay us a visit.
 Mrs. Hutches is in Washington to attend a meeting of the Women's Auxiliary
 of the American Legion, of which organization she is National Executive
 Committeewoman, and National Defense Chairman!

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IN THE FIELD OF RADIO

The Burns office will cooperate with the Army District Headquarters
 at Boise, following the installation of a radio transmitter and receiver
 by the Army, in relaying messages via the Grazing Service radio net work
 from the Boise headquarters to the camps in the district.

"DEAR DAD Life is Treating Me Great"

(Note: The following letter, written by Martin Romero to his father, is reprinted from the Colorado State Department of Public Welfare, Vol. 3, No. 2. Martin had no thought of his letter being used for publication. His father handed it to the Director of the Otero County Department of Public Welfare who sent it to the Colorado State Department of Public Welfare as an interesting description of an enrollee's life and his opportunities in the CCC.)

DG-2-C Company 806
Grand Junction, Colo.
May 23, 1939

Dear Dad:

I had planned to answer your letter of the seventeenth the next day, but you know what happens to plans.

The last few days I have been working on a poster for the camp superintendent. I am lettering a poem named "Alphabet of Etiquette" on the poster. There are times when I do a little typing, like typing up specifications of the dams the camp is building and such material as that. So far I have drawn up only one map by myself from the surveyor's notes. Most of my work so far has been lettering stuff on maps and tracings. The superintendent and the engineer seem to like my work, but to be a draftsman a fellow has to know a lot of math like algebra and trigonometry. The other day I was sent out with the surveying crew just to watch them work so that I would be able to understand their notes when plotting up the maps.

We work for the Division of Grazing five days of the week. On Saturday we work in camp half a day for the army, mopping the barracks and cleaning up the camp. The rest of the time is ours.

Lady Luck must surely be with me, because I made the first team in softball. We play our first game under the lights Wednesday night down town. We have played six games and lost three. I have been playing short stop. They are going to buy us new suits and shoes.

I am doing my best to see if I can finish the subjects I was carrying this year in school. If I do finish them by this fall, I can go back to Rocky Ford and finish school and then come back to this same camp. I have been promised a nine months school leave for this fall if I do make them up. There is little doubt in my mind but what I can complete my credit in typing, but making up my stenography, English and bookkeeping is going to be tough.

Playing ball two evenings out of every week and working on my lessons keep me busy all my spare time. I have even done a little drawing. The educational instructor sent one of my cartoons to Washington, D. C., to see if they will put it in a camp newspaper called "Happy Days." I got a pass to the show down town the other day by drawing two posters for the manager of the theatre.

We work about six hours a day. This camp is building dams and poisoning prairie dogs. Since I got my job in the Division of Grazing office, I stay in camp all the time. I am going to have to study a lot of math, though, before I can become a real draftsman. Although I am not sure whether I would like to be a draftsman, I am working at it for the experience it will give me and it also gives me a lot of practicing in lettering and handling drawing pens.

We have a new commanding officer now since our old one had to go to Denver on some kind of business. This new officer is pretty strict, but he's fair with everyone. We have been getting better meals since he came, although the meals before he came were quite OK and one could not crab about them. This new gent has really been putting everything on the line. He gives a package of cigarettes every evening to the neatest and best looking man in the company. So far he hasn't given me a second look when he has been choosing the best looking man, but I don't lose hopes. If I ever get one of those packages of cigarettes, I'll take it home with me as a souvenir.

I am glad to hear that you are all well. Life is treating me great. Kisses to "mom" and all the family. Regards to Joe Padilla, Don Josecito, to grandpa and grandma.

I am going to buy my suit the last of this month when I get paid. Wishing you the best of everything, I remain

Your dear son,

(Signed) Martin J. Romero.

*** R R ***

"Collecting and Handling Seeds of Wild Plants", a Civilian Conservation Corps Forestry Publication No. 5, by N. T. Mirov and Charles J. Kraebel of the California Forest and Range Experiment Station, United States Forest Service, is a recent publication dealing with the collecting, storing, and propagation of seeds of wild plants that may be useful in various conservation projects such as erosion and flood control, planting cuts, fills, and burned areas, providing forage, et cetera. A few copies of this booklet were available for field distribution; other copies may be procured from the Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D. C. for ten cents per copy.

*** R R ***

In the January issue of the "Western Live Stock" magazine there is reproduced a letter from Regional Grazier Moore, Colorado, relative to the representation and interest of local stockmen in the elections of local advisory boards. Mr. Moore, from a tabulation he has made of election results in Colorado during November, finds that only approximately 35 percent of the qualified voters in the five districts in his region took advantage of their right to vote. In commenting on Mr. Moore's letter, the "Western Live Stock" says that "Failure of a large percentage of these permittees to exercise the right now guaranteed them under the recent amendment to the Taylor Act to vote for the men they wish to represent them on the local advisory boards must seriously threaten the maintenance of the right that permittees now have under the law to participate in the administration of the Taylor Act."

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